December 24, 2003

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SHIOTA, Kazuo et al. Conf.:

Appl. No.: NEW Group:

Filed: December 24, 2003 Examiner:

For: METHOD, APPARATUS AND PROGRAM FOR IMAGE

CLASSIFICATION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

O. Box 1450

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This amendment includes Amendments to the Specification and Remarks.